registration, investigation and prosecution of crimes lies with the State Government. As per the data maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), 247 cyber crimes were registered under the Information Technology Act during 2004 and 2005 and 252 persons were arrested. During the same period, 581 cyber crimes were registered under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and 706 persons were arrested.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered six cases during this period: out of which four cases are pending trial, one case has been compounded and one case is under investigation.

(c) The Information Technology Act, 2000 provides legal recognition for transactions carried out by means of electronic data interchange and other means of electronic communication, commonly referred as 'Electronic Commerce'. Chapter IX of the Information Technology Act 2000, covering sections 43 to 47 provides for 'Penalties and Adjudications'. Chapter XI of the said Act covering sections 65 to 76, provides for 'Offences'.

Impact of foreign wars on Indians abroad

2135. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians affected due to US invasion in Iraq and Israel's Lebanon war;

(b) the actions taken by Government so far to evacuate the Indians from these countries; and

(c) the action taken by India so far at diplomatic level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) Most Indian nationals voluntarily left Iraq before the outbreak of hostilities in 2003. Approximately 74 Indians still resident in Iraq were directly affected by the hostilities. 65 of them returned to India. One Indian national was repatriated to India at Government expense. Our Mission in Baghdad renders all possible

assistance to Indian nationals working or stranded in Iraq and desiring to return to India.

There were approximately 12000 Indian nationals in Lebanon at the outbreak of hostilities. The Govemment issued an advisory on 17-7-06 alerting our nationals in Lebanon about the deteriorating situation, and advising them to keep their travel documents ready and to remain in touch with the our Embassy in Beirut for further advice. 1782 Indians desiring to leave Lebanon have been evacuated so far. The Government of India arranged Indian naval ships to ferry these Indian nationals from Lebanon to Larnaca (Cyprus) and from there Air India brought them to India. A small number have also been evacuated *via* Damascus. Approximately 10000 Indian nationals remain in Lebanon as they have opted to stay there. Our Mission in Beirut continues processing request for evacuations of Indian nationals in Lebanon and is in contact with them through various Indian organizations and is making necessary arrangements for Indian nationals desiring to leave Lebanon. In this it has sought and received assistance of the Governments of Lebanon and neighbouring countries.

Land occupied by Bangladesh

†2136. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam has reported to Central Government that about two Kms. of land in Assam has been grabbed by Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for getting back the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Reports about Bangladesh nationals forcibly grabbing 500 acres (2.02 sq km) of Indian territory have been found to be incorrect.

(c) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.